

Message Text

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FOLLOWING SENT ACTION CINCLANT INFO CINCLANTFLT COMOCEANSYSLANT
LANTCOMOSUPFAC AND AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK FROM COMICEDEFOR
AUGUST 1ST REPEATED TO YOU FOR INFO:

QUOTE

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NEWSPAPER ARTICLES CONCERNING UNDERWATER CABLE

1. SUMMARY: THJODVILJINN NEWSPAPER CONTINUES TO REPORT ON CABLE
MATTER. FULL TRANSLATIONS FOLLOW. END SUMMARY.

2. HEADLINE FROM PAGE 1 OF 1 AUGUST 1975 EDITION OF
THJODVILJINN: "THE CABLE MATTER: A MARITIME COURT OF INQUIRY IN
KEFLAVIK AFTER THE WEEKEND."

"AS THJODVILJINN HAS REPORTED OF LATE, IT IS CONSIDERED PROVED
ALMOST FULLY THAT THE CABLE ON WHICH THE "THORKELL ARNASON GK-21"
FOULED HER TRAWL LAST WEEK AT ELDEY, IS A PROPERTY OF THE U.S.
ARMED FORCE. AS A RESULT OF THIS PROSPECTS ARE THAT THE OWNERS OF
THE FISHING BOAT WILL BE ABLE TO GET COMPENSATION FOR THE DAMAGE DONE.

THE FISHING BOAT LOST THE TRAWL AND EXTENSIVE DAMAGE OCCURED ON
BOARD, FOR EXAMPLE TO TRAWL WIRES, WINCH AND A HYDRAULIC SYSTEM
ON THE WINCH.

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"A MARITIME COURT OF INQUIRY WILL MEET IN

KEFLAVIK AFTER THE HOLIDAYS (BUSINESSMAN'S HOLIDAY 2-4 AUG) AND ALL POSITION FIXES WILL BE CONFIRMED. AFTER THIS THE MATTER WILL EXPECTEDLY BE SUBMITTED TO THE CLAIMS COMMITTEE IN THE MINISTRY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS, WHICH DECIDES ON COMPENSATIONS FOR THE DAMAGE. IT IS THEN THE TREASURY OF THE UNITED STATES WHICH COMPENSATES FOR THE DAMAGE AS DECIDED BY THE CLAIMS COMMITTEE."

3. HEADLINE FROM PAGE 4 OF 1 AUGUST EDITION OF THJODVILJINN: "THE CORNER: THE OCCUPATION STATE OF MIND OF THE NEWS MEDIA."

"ONCE AGAIN A FISHING BOAT HAS SUFFERED THE MISFORTUNE OF LOSING A TRAWL DUE TO CABLES WHICH THE AMERICAN ARMED FORCE HAS PLACED ON THE FISHING GROUNDS. MORGUNBLADID, THE LARGE NEWSPAPER WHICH PRAISES ITSELF FOR BRINGING THE NATION DEPENDABLE NEWS, HAS AS USUAL BEEN RATHER QUIET ABOUT THIS AMERICAN ESPIONAGE EQUIPMENT, MUCH MORE QUIET THAN ABOUT THE 'SOVIET' ESPIONAGE BUOYS WHICH HAVE DRIFTED ASHORE HERE, OR SO IT IS BELIEVED. WHEN THESE ARE FOUND, MORGUNBLADID USES THE LARGEST PRINT POSSIBLE. WHEN THE FISHING BOAT LOST THE TRAWL,

THE REPORT IS OFFERED IN A SMALL SINGLE COLUMN REPORT ON AN INSIDE PAGE.

"THE STATE BROADCASTING SERVICE WAS SLOW TO START TOO. IT IS FIRST AFTER MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS EINAR AGUSTSSON HAS ADMITTED IN TIMINN, THAT THE CABLE IS MOST LIKELY AMERICAN MILITARY EQUIPMENT, THAT THE RADIO OFFERED A SHORT RADIO NEWS REPORT ON THIS MATTER.

"ALL THESE NEWS MEDIA, TIMINN, THE RADIO AND MORGUNBLADID HAVE ONE THING IN COMMON WHICH IS, THAT ALL OF THEM MAINTAIN THAT IT IS THE ICELANDIC STATE, THE STATE TREASURY OF ICELAND, WHICH IS TO PAY DAMAGES FOR THE DAMAGE CAUSED BY THE CABLE. WHAT NONSENSE AND WHAT AN OCCUPATION STATE OF MIND.

"WITHOUT THINKING IT IS DECLARED, THAT THE ICELANDIC STATE SHALL PAY COMPENSATIONS FOR DAMAGE CAUSED BY THE ARMED FORCE IN THIS COUNTRY. WITH ONE TELEPHONE CALL TO A DEPUTY IN THE DEFENSE AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT IT'S POSSIBLE TO LEARN, THAT IF CLAIMS ARE SUBMITTED DUE TO DAMAGE OR ACCIDENTS CAUSED BY THE ARMED FORCE AND FOR COMPENSATIONS FOR SUCH, THE CLAIMS COMMITTEE DECIDES ON THE COMPENSATIONS

AND THE TREASURY OF THE UNITED STATES PAYS IN ACCORDANCE TO THE DECISION BY THE COMMITTEE. HOPEFULLY PEOPLE CAN STILL DRAW A LINE BETWEEN THE TWO, THE STATE TREASURY OF ICELAND AND THE FEDERAL TREASURY IN WASHINGTON. - EINAR KARL HARALDSSON".

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